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MEDIA RELEASE

Gwinn Named Top Lawyer by National Magazine

SAN DIEGO, CA (Thurs., Jan. 30, 1997) -- The February issue of *American Lawyer* magazine has named San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn one of the country's top 45 legal leaders.

Gwinn, who just took office as City Attorney seven weeks ago, has trained prosecutors in over 40 states and has gained a national reputation for his revolutionary approach in the prosecution of domestic violence cases.

During his ten year term as a deputy city attorney, Gwinn became one of the first to prosecute domestic violence cases without the victim. The first case in which he prosecuted without a victim was against a sitting judge accused of abusing his pregnant partner. Within the first six months of using his approach, Gwinn won 19 of 21 cases.

"He's incredibly influential. His model is probably the best model in the country," said Joan Zorza, publisher of the newsletter "Domestic Violence Report."

The *American Lawyer* selected 45 lawyers within the public sector who are "legal pioneers," using their "law degrees to change lives, have the respect of colleagues and opponents and followed their hearts not their wallets" in pursuing their goals.

"I became a prosecutor because I wanted to make a difference in people's lives. In domestic violence you really can make a difference. It's prevention." Gwinn was quoted in the periodical. "And today, in my role as City Attorney, I would like to take the same pro-active preventative approach in providing legal services to our city leaders," Gwinn said of the article.

In a related matter, Gwinn is credited for his innovative prosecution of domestic violence cases without a victim in the February 18 edition of *Woman's Day* magazine.

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